

PATENT

DB
#13

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER

EK421338069US

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE-TO-ADDRESSEE" SERVICE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10 ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW AND IS ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231,

DATE OF DEPOSIT:

2-22-00

SIGNATURE/TYPED NAME:

TERESA RAGONE

DATE

2-22-00

TECHNOLOGY CENTER
3708

FEB 28 2000

RECEIVED

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Thomas W. Davison et al.
Serial No. : 09/137,335
Filed : August 20, 1998
For : CANNULA FOR RECEIVING
SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS
Group Art Unit : 3731
Examiner : W. Lewis
Attorney Docket No. : A31-4000

Cleveland, OH 44114-1400
February 22, 2000

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This information disclosure statement is being filed to fulfill the duty of candor and good faith toward the Patent and Trademark Office, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56.

Below is a list of information of which persons substantively involved in the preparation of the application identified above, are aware of and believe that a reasonable Examiner may consider important to deciding whether to allow the application. Although a search to locate the best information

may have been made, this document is not a representation that such a search has been made and is not a representation that no other information exists. However, this document is not to be construed as being an admission that any of the items set forth in the list is "material" as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b).

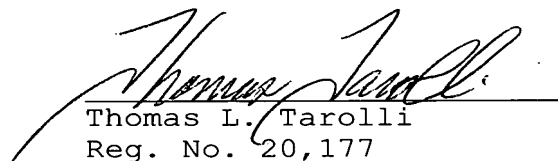
Copies of the items and PTO Form 1449 are attached except for the listed U.S. patent application.

<u>Patentee</u>	<u>U.S. Patent No.</u>	<u>Issued</u>
Murdock	3,044,461	7/17/62
Gill et al.	4,899,729	2/13/90
Bufalini	5,707,359	1/13/98

Foreign Document

European Patent Application 0 807 415 A2
Published 11/19/97

Respectfully submitted,


Thomas L. Tarolli
Reg. No. 20,177

TAROLLI, SUNDHEIM, COVELL
TUMMINO & SZABO L.L.P.
526 Superior Avenue
1111 Leader Building
Cleveland, OH 44114-1400

(216) 621-2234